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Pipe Line



- ◆ Excavation Damage Prevention
- ◆ Avoided Damage and Litigation
- ◆ Leader in Best Practices
- ◆ Benchmarking Data
- ◆ New Technologies and Tools
- ◆ Educational and Promotional Materials
- ◆ Teamwork and Cooperation
- ◆ Stakeholder Influence
- ◆ Continued Improvement
- ◆ Increased Safety Awareness
- ◆ Effective, Lower-Cost Compliance
- ◆ Enhanced Market Forecasting
- ◆ Knowledge Sharing
- ◆ Safety Performance Information
- ◆ Damage Prevention Information
- ◆ Education Opportunities
- ◆ Opportunity to Contribute

Do Your Part to Prevent Damages



Join the Common Ground Alliance

For More Information Contact:

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Common Ground Alliance

Call, Design, Locate, and Dig Safely



Damage Prevention Is A Shared Responsibility

Preventing Damages to Underground Facilities

Helping to Keep America Safe & Connected

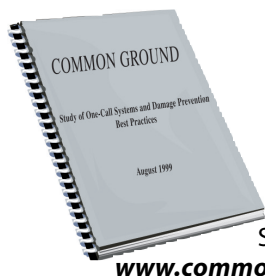


Best Practices Implementation

Whether you are a facility owner/ operator, locator, design professional, one-call center employee, excavator/contractor or other stakeholder, ensuring the safety of those who work or live in the vicinity of underground facilities and protecting our vital services is everyone's responsibility.

The Common Ground Alliance (CGA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the promotion of shared responsibility and implementation of "best practices" in damage prevention. Identified in the landmark Common Ground Study, the "best practices" include:

- ◆ Encourage participation by all stakeholders in their local One-Call Center program
- ◆ Include the location of existing utilities on plans
- ◆ Record the actual placement of utilities upon installation
- ◆ Utilize technologies and methods that render underground facilities easily locatable
- ◆ Locate accurately and mark utilities properly, employing trained personnel
- ◆ Call before you dig
- ◆ Know local One-Call laws, policies & practices before beginning excavation activities
- ◆ Utilize safe digging practices when excavating in the vicinity of existing utilities
- ◆ Respect utility markings during excavation
- ◆ Use qualified personnel in all areas of damage prevention
- ◆ When in doubt contact your local One-Call Center



To access the Common Ground Study Report, please visit www.commongroundalliance.com.

Purpose

The Common Ground Study was sponsored by the U.S. Dept. of Transportation and completed in 1999. The CGA is building on the spirit of shared responsibility resulting from the Study. The purpose of the CGA is to ensure public safety, environmental protection, and integrity of services by promoting effective damage prevention practices.

The CGA works cooperatively to:

- ◆ Foster Shared Responsibility
- ◆ Support Research
- ◆ Develop Public Awareness and Education Programs
- ◆ Identify and disseminate "best practices"
- ◆ Serve as a data clearinghouse

Educational Programs

The CGA is developing and promoting educational materials specifically tailored to assist all stakeholder groups in understanding their specific responsibilities in protecting vital underground facilities and implementing the best practices.



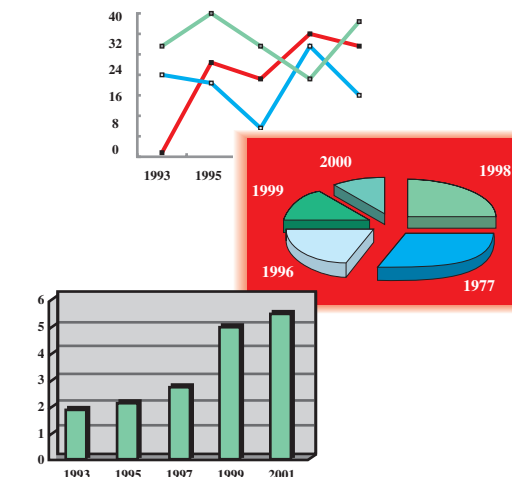
The CGA is a national organization governed and supported by representatives from various stakeholder groups from across the nation. This diversity ensures that educational information and materials address all aspects of damage prevention.

Dig Safely.

The educational efforts of the CGA include continued promotion and growth of the national Dig Safely Campaign. Please visit www.digsafely.com for more information on Dig Safely.

Data Collection and Analysis

Decisions on damage prevention activities should correspond to relevant data. The CGA is working to become a clearinghouse for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of damage prevention data.



National Research

The CGA is promoting research and development efforts for new damage prevention technologies, such as:

- ◆ New locating technologies
- ◆ Underground boring techniques
- ◆ Joint trench practices
- ◆ New mapping technologies
- ◆ GIS/GPS

Federal Grants

The CGA will promote federal grants and provide information for legislation and programs aimed at reducing damages to our nation's vital underground infrastructure.